UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

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§	CIVIL ACTION NO.:
§	3:21-CV-01614-B
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MEDIATION ORDER

The Court has determined that this case is appropriate for mediation. *See* Rules 1, 16, Fed. R. Civ. P.; 28 U.S.C. § 473(a)(6), (b)(4); Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of the Northern District of Texas ¶ III (1993); Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code §§ 154.001 et seq. (Vernon Supp. 1997).

Mediation is a mandatory but non-binding settlement conference wherein the parties attempt to resolve their differences with the assistance of a third party facilitator: the mediator. All proceedings in a mediation session are confidential and privileged from discovery. No subpoenas, summons, citations, or other process shall be served at or near the location of any mediation session, upon any person entering, leaving, or attending any mediation session.

The parties shall make independent arrangements for payment of fees for the mediation. The costs of mediation are to be divided and borne equally by the parties unless agreed otherwise. The named parties and lead counsel for each party shall be present during the entire mediation process and each party which is not a natural person must be represented by an executive officer (other than in-house counsel) with authority to negotiate a settlement (the authority required shall be active, i.e., not merely the authority to observe the mediation proceedings but the authority

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to negotiate, demand or offer, and bind the party represented). Counsel and the parties shall

proceed in a good faith effort to try to resolve this case.

Following the mediation, the court will be advised only that the case did or did not settle.

Referral to alternative dispute resolution is not a substitute for trial, however, and the case will be

tried if not settled.

The Court has selected the Honorable Jeff Kaplan as the parties' mediator. The parties

should ensure that Judge Kaplan receives this Order. The mediator is directed by the Court to

complete the attached Alternative Dispute Resolution Summary Form and file it with the clerk of

court within ten (10) days after the mediation session is completed. *If the mediator has not already*

done so, he/she is required to register for electronic case filing with the Court within ten (10) days

from this Order. More information about the Court's Electronic Case Filing system may be found

at http://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/ecf-registration.

The Court hereby ORDERS the parties to complete the mediation no later than March 4,

2022. Failure to comply in good faith with the requirements of this order may result in the

imposition of sanctions. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f).

SO ORDERED.

SIGNED: October 25, 2021.

XVE J. BOYYLE

NITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE